**Board Report Jim Knott –High School Principal**

**Douglas County West Community Schools November 11, 2019**

November is upon us, and although we are between sports seasons, it is a very busy time at the high school. The honor roll for first quarter came out on Friday, October 25. We have two types of academic honor rolls at DC West; an Honor Roll of Distinction and an Honor Roll of Merit. To be included on the Honor Roll of Distinction, a student must have accumulated a GPA of 3.5 or higher for that grading period. To be included on the Honor Roll of Merit, students must have achieved a 3.0-3.5 GPA during the grading period. The first quarter honor rolls are listed on page two of this report.

On October 24th & 25th, I attended the second installment of the National Freshman Success Institute (NFSI) workshop in Chicago with colleagues from Bennington, Elkhorn, and Millard. I also attended the original session held from July 30-August 1 and will attend the final session on February 20 & 21. The original plan for this session was for the attendees to visit several of the Chicago Public High Schools in order to see the Freshman Success intervention process in action. However, the Chicago Teachers Union went on strike on October 22 so we were unable to visit schools during the workshop. Because of this, plans for the day were changed and we will now be visiting schools during the final session in February. Due to my experience with NFSI, we started a Freshman Success team here at DC West with the purpose of providing another layer of support for at-risk 9th graders. Current Freshman Success Team members are Dan Maline, Jim Knott, Nathan Ter Beest, Ron Michael, Randy Donner, Gayle Smith, Val Randall, Ty Hansen, Jeremy Travis, and Lindsey Arnold.

Over the past year, the Nebraska Capital Conference (NCC) has been in the process of undergoing some major membership changes. The discussion started with concern from several of the smaller schools over the large student enrollment differences within the NCC conference. They felt this created a competitive disadvantage for smaller schools causing fewer competitive events and activities. At the same time, the two largest schools, Springfield-Platteview and Wahoo, were searching for a Class B conference that would better fit their enrollment numbers and competitiveness in activities. In July of 2019, the school boards from Springfield-Platteview and Wahoo passed resolutions to leave the NCC in August of 2020 and join a newly formed Class B conference called the Trailblazer Conference. As Springfield-Platteview and Wahoo were in the process of leaving the conference, the NCC Conference was looking for new members to take their place. Through this process, Louisville was approved to join the NCC Conference starting in August of 2020. Several other schools fitting the Class C-1 mold of the NCC Conference are also being considered starting in 2021 and beyond.

